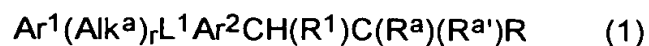


ABSTRACT

Alkanoic acid derivatives of formula (1) are described:

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Ar^1 is an optionally substituted aromatic or heteroarotic group;

L^1 is a covalent bond or a linker atom or group;

10 Ar^2 is an optionally substituted phenylene or nitrogen-containing six-membered heteroarylene group;

R is a carboxylic acid ($-\text{CO}_2\text{H}$) or a derivative thereof;

and the salts, solvates, hydrates and N-oxides thereof.

The compounds are able to inhibit the binding of $\alpha 4$ integrins to their
15 ligands and are of use in the prophylaxis and treatment of immune or inflammatory disorders.